

# Income gulf is widening in America

(Continued from Page 2)

paper, backfired.

The corporations were getting their tax breaks and earning incredible sums of money, but they did not invest into important aspects of the American economy.

Instead, they invested overseas or into merging without corporations or buying other corporations. They did not reinvest in American Steel or even in rebuilding their own corporations. The quick fix was the theme of the '80s, and it killed many small towns and

many inner cities.

The workers of America paid for these investments. Well-paid manufacturing jobs and the purchasing power of manufacturing paychecks shrunk considerably. The average of all workers in constant dollars in 1977 was \$191.41 per week, whereas in 1986 it had dropped to \$171.07.

An AFL-CIO economic in Washington, stated, "We concentrate on what our memberships want, and a lot of unions have decided to give up wages for guaranteed jobs and for retraining programs."

The economy has diminished the power of the union. Disinvestment into America is raising unemployment and staggering corporate America's growth. Since Reagan's supply-side cuts, America invested 12.2

percent into new plants and machinery. Since then tax cut investments have fluctuated from a low of 11 percent to a high of 12.6 percent. Not much of a strategy. It has become blatantly more evident that policies are set to suppress the poor and support the rich.

Where does the future lie for America? George Bush continues the policies of the Reagan administration, even today trying to cut the capital gains tax again. But who can blame the former or present presidencies; it doesn't seem anyone is questioning their policies.

The future is not bright. Two similar eras have occurred in American history — the Guided Age, which followed the Civil War, and the Roaring Twenties. Now we have Reaganomics. The

Guided Age and Roaring Twenties ended in depression, and some would say we stand in the same predicament. Savings and loans will cost Americans an estimated \$200 billion in the '90s. Also this whole policy of deregulation seems to be killing our financial system. If supply-side policies continue, American can look forward to an inevitable depression.

Finally, let us not ride the coattails of the Persian Gulf War into the elections of 1992. Our generation is America's future. It is neither undemocratic or unpatriotic to question government. It is quite the contrary. The questions are to challenge our elected officials, to make our country once again an economic power. The future is in our hands. Step up to the challenge.

## Attics are treasure chests of memories

(Continued from Page 2)

asked me to tell her about her father as a child, and I realized that his history was up in my attic, too.

After we went to high school, my friend and I never lived in the same place, but we always wrote to each other, so I told my friend's daughter that I would try to put together a collection of his letters.

One Sunday morning when I should have been grading papers I went up those funny little stairs and spent most of the day surrounded by dusty fragments of a multitude of half-forgotten memories.

As I searched for the boxes with the right letters in them, I rediscovered — just to take a few examples — a paper I wrote in high school about the lefty philosopher Herbert Marcuse; a box with all of my school report cards (I got a C in courtesy in the third grade); a collection of newspapers from the day John Kennedy was assassinated; some crazy sunglasses and beads I wore in college; and my family's and friends' letters.

Letters are second to nothing in the pantheon of saving stuff. Perhaps because I've moved around so much, I have always corresponded with people. I had forgotten about the intense innocent passion of my high school sweetheart (I hope *her daughter* doesn't ask for *those!*).

I'd forgotten my parents' agonizing about some of my youthful indiscretions. I'd forgotten how many people cared enough to write down thoughts about the ups and downs in their lives and in mine, about politics, about our slowly developing philosophies of life.

How could anyone throw away a letter, I wondered, and what a

shame we don't seem to be writing as much lately.

Luckily enough for my friend's daughter, I was able to let her learn about her father — who died in a car accident last summer — through his own words.

## Recycling bins return to campus

By NEIL LATTA

"It is back," said one Wesleyan professor as the recycling bins were put into place. The new light blue containers that took the place of the old cardboard containers were placed in the academic building on March 13.

About a year ago, old bins stopped being filled and just laid around the offices collecting dust. Now, with the new bins being filled on a constant basis, the re-

cycling project is on its feet again.

There are two kinds of paper that can be recycled, white and computer. The stipulations on the white paper include cardboard, newspaper, and colored paper. Any paper that is colored all the way through is considered colored paper; some examples are yellow legal pad paper and yellow memos.

White paper that can be recycled include envelopes (window envelopes need to have the

window torn out first), stationery, notebook paper, letterhead, and photocopy paper.

Computer paper includes both impact and laser paper. The reason for the separation of the two is because when they break down the paper, it takes a different process to get the ink off computer than off white paper.

The paper that is recycled goes to Tri County Industries where it is later shipped to a company called Brame who makes toilet

paper, napkins, and paper towels. Carolina Telephone recycles one ton of paper a day, which is equal to 17 trees a day.

Bins will be distributed in the dorms soon. All that is asked is that the bins only have paper and not trash. Students who see someone throwing trash in a bin should ask them to take it out.

Monthly reports will come out on how much paper the campus saves and on how many trees the campus saves.

### 1991-1992 Room Selection

Monday, April 8

9:30 -10:15 p.m. ....Same Room Selection — All Students

Tuesday, April 9

9:30-10:15 p.m. ....New Room Selection — Rising Seniors/Rising Juniors

Wednesday, April 10

9:30-10:30 p.m. ....Rising Sophomores

All selections will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the S.A. Center

*Housing Form Deadline: April 5*